

John Gioia (say "Joya")

Chair, Board of Supervisors
Contra Costa County

**Contra
Costa
County**



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Comment Set 35

April 13, 2006

Mr. Paul D. Thayer, Executive Officer
California State Lands Commission
100 Howe Avenue, Suite 100-South
Sacramento, CA 95825

Dear Mr. Thayer,

As the Contra Costa County Supervisor representing the Richmond area, I am writing to support the position of TRAC (Trails for Richmond Action Committee) regarding the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Chevron Long Wharf lease of state lands.

In 1987, Senate Bill 100 directed the Association of Bay Area Governments to develop a plan for a biking and hiking route that would circle the San Francisco and San Pablo Bays. The completion of Richmond's portion of the San Francisco Bay Trail will greatly enhance the city and surrounding areas. It will increase the scenic, recreational, cultural, and historical attributes of the region, essentially a win-win for residents, workers, visitors, and businesses.

As governmental agencies and concerned citizens review the draft environmental impact report on the Chevron Long Wharf, I urge you to include the mitigations requested by TRAC. This includes public access easements for a two-way multi-use Class I Bay Trail; segments connecting Tewksbury Avenue with the existing trail; and funds to build an option two Bay Trail in the Questa Feasibility Study of Bay Trail Routes to the Point San Pablo Peninsula.

It is challenging to build a community trail in or near industrial areas. But as the Bay Trail expands in all Bay Area counties and a dream becomes a reality, we are learning the two can co-exist in a safe and appropriate manner. With appropriate planning, community access to the Bay can be compatible with nearby industrial uses. Blending the two uses serves as a valuable multi-use model for community development. Everyone will benefit from an enhanced Richmond shoreline, including industry.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

John Gioia
Chair, Board of Supervisors

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NORTH RICHMOND • RICHMOND • ROLLINGWOOD • SAN PABLO

35-1

Response to Comment Set #35

35-1

Please see the first two paragraphs of response 39-3 and 3-15, respectively

